village officers standing as candidates and the Tahsildar as the polling officer, be of some advantage to the officer concerned?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—Government do not think so.

Road connecting Mulakunnathukavu—Mundur Road and Attamkal—Mundathikode Road.

145. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether the inhabitants of the Velappayi Village had not petitioned the Registrar of Village Panchayats requesting for a road connection between the Mulakunnathukavu—Mundoor Road and the Attamkal—Mundathikode Road through Survey Nos. 55, 56 and 44 of the Velappayi Village;

(b) whether the Government is aware that a footpath that the villagers were using along these survey numbers has been blocked up by the owners concerned;

(c) has the Government any idea as to what amount will be required for giving this village a pathway as desired?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes; about Rs. 275—0—0.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—(b) In view of the footpath being blocked up will the Government be pleased to open this road which will cost them only 275 rupees?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—It was blocked up a year back. There is no such complaint now. If it recurs then it will be considered.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Is the way that is blocked up open now?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—I presume so.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Have you any information?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—I have information that there is no complaint now.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—My question is whether the road that is blocked up is now open or not?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—I have no information. I want notice.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Will this road costing only Rs. 275 be taken up as an urgent item of work to be executed by the Panchayat?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—If the road to the school is not more important, this will be taken up.

Improvement of a well in Chittanda village.

146. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

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(a) whether there was not a petition from Pulikkottil Ittiachan Devassi and others of Chittanda village for the improvement of a well in Survey No. 975/2 of the Chittanda village;

(b) whether one Puzhankara Puthenveetil Kochusankara Menon had not offered to deposit the land acquisition charges of the site to the East and West of the well required for an apron wall;

(c) whether the Government had not in its order, D. Dis. 7577/08 dated 8th April 1933, D. D. sanctioned the request of the people;

(d) whether subsequent to the above order the work was not actually entrusted on contract to one Mekatukulam Ittiachan of Kundanoor;

(e) whether Kochusankara Menon was not asked to deposit the amount promised by him;

(f) whether the required sum was not deposited by Mr. Menon;

(g) whether the work was subsequently given up and Mr. Menon required to withdraw the deposit made by him;

(h) what were the reasons for giving up the work if the same has been given up?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) Yes.

(e) Yes.

(f) Yes.

(g) Yes.

(h) 1. Mr. Kochusankara Menon has no power to alienate the site. The pattadar of the site was also not willing to part with the site free of compensation. The Government, therefore, ordered that the proposal to improve the well would be dropped.

2. On inspection, it was also found that the well was too near the eaves of a dwelling house and stood, therefore, the chance of being easily contaminated.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—I request the permission of the President to club questions 146 and 147 for purposes of supplementary questions.

President.—Yes.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—The correspondence on the subject is given here in Appendix 5. Was the fact that the well was too near the house and therefore stood the chance of being easily contaminated, discovered subsequently or was it observed by the authorities at the time of the correspondence mentioned in Appendix 5?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—It was found out only subsequently.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—It was subsequent

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to that that the Registrar recommended that the work may be taken up and the Government sanctioned the work. Am I right?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—No. It was found only when we knew that this Kochu Sankara Menon had not the right to part with the property. I made a local inspection and then it was found out.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—May I know whether the fact that the well was too near the site was observed by the authorities when the letter printed on the last page of the question book was addressed by the Registrar to the Government?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—I made a personal inspection of the site only when there was complaint that the alleged Pattadar, Mr. Kochu Sankara Menon is not the rightful owner of that property and then I found out that there was this difficulty also.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—May I know what is the right of Kochu Sankara Menon who gave the well to the Government?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—He has no right at all.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—What will be the expense of acquiring that site?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—It will cost much. The owner wants the building also to be acquired. That is the trouble.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—May I know what will be the cost of acquiring the site on which the well stands?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—The cost of acquiring the well with all the necessary appurtenances will come to about 2,000 rupees.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—May I know what are the appurtenances?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—The building. The original idea was that the well should be widened. But he made a very loud protest. I think there is some fact also in it because the building may collapse at any moment.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Did not the Registrar notice this when he reported to the Government?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—I am sorry I did not notice it.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—What is the distance of this building from the well?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—The well abuts on the side of the building. It is what you call the *Adukkala Kinaru*.

147. **Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.**—Will the Government be pleased to place on the Council table the Government order referred to in sub-division (c) of the previous question No. 146 as also the letter read as second paper in the above order?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—Copies of the Diwan's Proceedings and the letter are appended. (*Appendix V*).

Imprisonment of Mr. Cherian Manjuran.

148. **Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.**—Will the Government be

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